Central Government employees is required to be applied *mutatis mutandis* to the railway employees, separate consultation with the railway employees is not necessary.

Construction of unauthorised railway crossings

†5481. SHRIVIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many accidents are taking place at unmanned railway crossings;

(b) if so, the number of people killed in accidents at unmanned railways crossing, during the last three years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that due to negligence of Railways and delay in granting permission for construction of railway crossings, local public resort to construct their own unauthorised crossing for their use; and

the if so, the reasons therefor and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Numbers of persons killed at unmanned level crossing were 201, 138 and 158 during the year 1999-2000 and 2001-2002 respectively. (Figures for 2001 -2002 are provisional).

(c) and (d) According to provision of Indian Railway Act, 1989 accommodation works are provided at the time of laying of a new line in consultation with State Government and thereafter upto a period of ten years at Railway's cost. Thereafter, any accommodation work is provided at the cost of the authority demanding such facility. As per rules no new unmanned level crossing is permitted in view of safety. Only manned level crossing, duly sponsored by State Government/local bodies, agreeing to bear the initial capital cost as well as capitalized maintenance cost and fulfilling other requirement as per rules are allowed. On receipt of such proposals prompt action is taken by Railways. No unauthorised crossings are allowed to be constructed. However trespassing across Railways tracks

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

does take place at some locations. There is no negligence of Railway in it. Wherever trespassing is noticed, action is taken to prevent it.

Gauge conversion of Mangalore-Hassan Railway Line

5482. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether gauge conversion of Mangalore-Hassan Railway line is underway for the last few years;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that the progress of implementation of the project is not satisfactory, primarily, owing to delay and inadequate release of funds by the Central Government; and

(d) the steps taken by Government for expeditious completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (d) The gauge conversion of Mangalore-Hassan is in progress as part of Arsikere-Hassan-Mangalore project. On Mangalore-Hassan section, gauge conversion from Hassan to Sakleshpur has already been completed and commissioned. Conversion of Mangalore-Kabakaputtur is targeted for completed during 2002-2003. The work is being progressed as per availability of resources. This is one of the project identified for funding through K-RIDE to expedite completion.

Crimes Committed in Rajdhani/Shatabdi Express

5483. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI DEVI PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that security in various trains has deteriorated during the last two years;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of robberies, and other crimes committed on various